

The Chinhae Chronicle

Issue VI, Volume III June 2004



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The community newsletter for CFAC military, civilians and their families

Seabees, ROKs volunteer for rewarding COMREL

By CWO2 Matthew Kiefer

The old saying goes that “you should never volunteer.” In fact, there’s a running joke that the word NAVY is actually an acronym for Never Again Volunteer Yourself.

But apparently this joke was lost on a group of Seabees deployed to Chinhae, and their ROK Navy shipmates.

The Seabees and ROK personnel jumped right in as volunteers for a Community Relations project at a local orphanage.

Armed with paintbrushes, rakes and related equipment, the group met at the Huimang Orphanage located in the city of Chinhae, in the early morning hours of May 25. Working side by side, the Seabees, from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIVE, home ported Port Hueneme, CA and the Republic of Korea Navy men used a little

sweat and some good old-fashioned manual labor to restore the playground equipment to like-new condition.

They checked safety condition of the swings, slides, seesaws, basketball poles, and soccer goal posts, scraped old painting off the equipment and the front gate of the orphanage.

They also attacked the playground with rakes and shovels to clear some brush and fill in holes, making it level and safe for the children to play on.

According to project coordinator, Mr. Yi, the orphanage staff was very pleased with the personnel’s efforts.

Since the inception of the Orphanage more than 50 years ago, there have always been military personnel around to volunteer to help keep the orphanage running. With U.S. Navy and ROK Sailors involved, the tradition should easily continue for another 50.



Group photo of Seabees and ROK Navy personnel at Huimang Orphanage, in the city of Chinhae, Korea.

HONOR

Summer brings hails and farewells, and UFL

By Cmdr. Francis X. Martin
Commander, Fleet Activities, Chinhae

Congratulations to the new Chinhae Sailors frocked on 17 May with news coverage by Armed Forces Network. I am especially pleased to announce the advancements for five new first class petty officers: **SK1 Bernard, HT1 Days, SK1 Nacion, MA1 Shelton, and DK1 Tindle.** First Class Petty Officers are the “wheels” of the US Navy responsible for deck plate leadership and mission accomplishment.

Overall, CFAC had a 72% advancement rate - *break the code* - start early to get ready for the September advancement exam!

Bravo Zulu to **DCCS Valdez, Mrs. Atwood, Mrs. M. Smith and Mrs. Sabanga** for leading the Asian Pacific Islander celebration. The dance performance and Tae Kwan Do demonstration by the children of Chinhae was memorable.

Mr. Song - Tae Kwan Do instructor and member of DECA team at the commissary - inspired the discipline and strength in the children to break boards as part of the demonstration.

Commanders Cup event in May was Volleyball and **LTJg Coleman** led the Supply Department to a commanding victory. The supply team was solid without a single weakness!

Well Done to **PN1 Quizon** who organized Career Day for the CT Joy students. School year ends on 11 June and **Colleen O'Toole** has planned a summer full of fun events and educational day trips to give our children exposure to Korea.

COMPACFLT completed a major review of CFAC manning requirements and determined several functions on the base will be shifted from Active Duty Military personnel to Civilian personnel. The changes will not occur for 12-18 months, but CFAC active duty manning will eventually be reduced by 10%.

Chinhae is becoming a training option for sailors in Korea. Due to the high cost of per diem in Seoul, it is often most cost effective to bring off-peninsula trainers to Chinhae and send sailors from Seoul down to CFAC to join in on the training. Over



the past month, CFAC hosted the following courses: Command Managed Equal Opportunity (CMEQ) - 16 students; Command Training Team Indoctrination (CTTI) - 12 students; Petty Officer Indoctrination - 22 students; Fire Fighting Academy with KORO instructors - 13 students; CPR training - 12 students; Armory Course to maintain 9mm and M16 weapons - 8 students; and Navy Pistol Course (9mm) qualifications - 1 Marksman; 9 Expert. In June, Chinhae will host the following training events during the upcoming month: CTF 778 organization off site, Auxiliary Security Force (ASF) Academy, PREVENT training and continued CPR/Rifle/Pistol qualifications for all hands.

I want to say farewell to SEA BEES of NMCB5 who are completing their deployment. They are well ahead of schedule in building the new two story barracks that should be a proud accomplishment for their deployment.

Farewell to **CDR Dave Adams** who departs Chinhae after three years, and welcome to his relief, CDR Cheeseman, who is arriving from his XO tour on USS MAHAN (DDG 72).

June is one of the busiest months for PCS moves, especially in Korea.

During the next 30 days, Chinhae will welcome 32 new personnel and see 26 shipmates depart. (This includes the turnover of the SEA BEE detachment of 16 people.) This is a very large turnover of

people considering we have a total of 150 active duty personnel stationed in Chinhae. All hands are encouraged to offer a warm welcome to our new shipmates.

Mr. Shoda and Mr. Oh are working very hard to attract large parties to Turtle Cove in effort to generate more revenue for our club. Over the past month, Mr. Oh catered the following large parties: Navy League BBQ at Pavillion for 140 people; Masan Senior

Jaycees lunch for 130 people; Chinhae Chapel Pig Roast for 55 people; Masan/Yosu Rotary Club dinner for 75 and several smaller parties for Exercise PACIFIC REACH. Keep up the good work Chinhae MWR!

And the community of Chinhae needs to remember to patronize our club. If we cannot generate sufficient revenue at our club, we will be forced to reduce hours or possibly even close down the operation. Remember the song “*You don't know what you've got till it's gone!*”

The countdown to Ulchi Focus Lens (UFL) exercise is underway and we have reached 90 days to COMEX. Early preparation is the key to success and **LT Leaphart** will be keeping the community informed about this upcoming exercise. UFL is another opportunity to practice our wartime mission in Chinhae - do not forget how to blouse your BDU's and don your gas mask!

EAC David of CFAC Public Works will be conducting a Community Assessment Survey to identify areas where we can improve the quality of service on our base. Take the time to provide good recommendations for improvements or corrective action. Your input and ideas are desired! My expectation for every Sailor is the same as the last line from the Sailors Creed: **Commitment to excellence and the fair treatment of all!**

Chinhae Chronicle is an authorized publication for military and civilian members of Commander, Fleet Activities Chinhae, tenant commands, and their families. Contents of the Chinhae Chronicle do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Navy and do not imply endorsement thereof. This monthly newspaper is prepared by the Public Affairs Officer of Commander, Fleet Activities, Chinhae, Republic of Korea. Comments, contributions and suggestions are welcome, by email at bkaranjo@atsugi.navy.mil.

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COURAGE

Exploring The Peninsula: Things to do while stationed in Chinhae

Submitted by Dan D. Olson

Namyangju-si

With beautiful mountains such as the Cheonmasan Mountain and the Suraksan Mountain, and the Bukhangang River flowing through, Namyangju-si, located 26km Northeast of the heart of Seoul, is receiving the spotlight as a one day recreational spot.

The Mongol Culture Village was built on April of 2000 after a treaty of friendship was concluded between Namyangju-si and Ulaanbaatar (the capital of Mongol).

Here one can find a Mongolian nomadic residential area filled with traditional houses of unique architectural style.

There are a total of 10 Gers (Mongolian traditional houses shaped like a big round tent) in the village used as exhibition halls and lodgings. One can experience the Mongolian culture through the various foods, exhibits and performances.

For More Information: call +82-31-592-0088, +82-31-590-4244



There's lots to see and do at the Mongol Culture Village.

Meet a Shipmate

Name:

CE2(SCW) Anthony M. Castillo

Hometown:

Manila, PI

When I joined the Navy:

Sept. 3, 1996

Why I joined the Navy:

To fulfill my father's dream, and to be able to travel the world

Where I work:

Public Works

What I like best

about being in Korea:

Food, culture and the weather



U.S. Navy Photo by YN2 Amy Broadus

COMMITMENT

Reserve security unit undertakes joint training

By Lt. Cmdr. John P. Fitzgerald

What do you get when you combine Texas spring thunderstorms, a diverse group of personnel from three Naval Reserve units and one active duty Army unit, and a MOUT (Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain) site at Fort Hood, Texas?

The answer: A weekend full of excellent training under adverse conditions that reminded all participants of the rigors of real world operations.

From Friday, April 23rd through Sunday, April 25th, 35 members of three units from the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Austin, Texas joined 6 active duty personnel from the U. S. Army III Corps Chemical Headquarters Unit for a full, wet weekend of field training. NR Chinhae Security hosted members of Personnel Support Activity Far East Detachment 'C' and NR Fleet Hospital Dallas Detachment 8.

To launch the weekend, on Friday morning, 28 personnel reported to NMCRC Austin for the 2-hour bus ride north to Fort Hood. Upon arrival, personnel joined the advance party on the MOUT site. The MOUT site lies in the middle of several active ranges on Fort Hood, so radio communication with range control and the wearing of helmets are required at all times while occupying the range. All hands were issued web gear and Kevlar helmets, and given instruction in field radio communications.

Twenty-four hour radio and rover watch bills were established. PSA Far East Det 'C' supply clerks set up an MRE distribution center. logistics and

On Saturday morning, following an MRE breakfast, training events kicked off at 7 a.m.. There were three different stations led by 3 different teams.

At one station, Army personnel (for the third straight year), provided annual Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Defense to the 35 Naval Reserve personnel.



Members of NR Chinhae Security, led by GM2 Jeffrey Kirkpatrick and MA2 Steven Moore, receive final instructions before conducting a dynamic entry building clearing exercise. BM1 Jason Edwards is standing in the back holding the red gun shotgun.

At the second training station, two HMs and a nurse from FH Dallas Det 8 added hands on instruction in field first aid and hostage/POW survival skills.

Finally, the third station was run by NR Chinhae Security Detachment members, providing expert training in dynamic building clearing and tactical entries.

To conclude the training day, two consecutive practical exercise scenarios were run involving CBR-D, casualty medical assistance, and dynamic building entry and clearing. With judges designated to assess the event, a command post was set up. Then

tactical entry and medical assistance teams were assigned, and a hostage/POW rescue scenario briefed.

The tactical entry team suited up to MOPP Level 2(suits and boots), then began their attempt to approach and enter the target building. During their approach, casualties were taken and medical teams responded. Once the tactical team was in place outside the building, gas was released, forcing the team to quickly don protective masks prior to entry.

Finally, the remaining team members entered the building attempting to take down the "terrorists" holding the prisoner/hostage.

MA1 Paul Christ, who led the building clearing training using his expertise from work as a Sergeant on the Austin Police Department (APD) and training with the APD SWAT team, said, "Although it was just a familiarization class, I believe that the Sailors and officers who participated saw just how complicated these situations are and how easily people can get hurt. It gave them a real appreciation for . . . how hard one has to train in order to become proficient in these types of operations."

MACS (AW) Scott Rubin, Senior Enlisted Advisor for NR Chinhae Security, added that "I think it was an outstanding evolution that combined several different real world areas of concern: building entry, first aid, and CBR. What made it even more outstanding is that the evolution involved 3 different Naval Reserve units' participation and instruction in their area of expertise, as well as the assistance and expertise of an active Army component. Coupled with the weather, primitive living, and MRE's, and the sailors were reminded it's not all hotels and per diem."

EXCELLENCE

MWR brings recreational activities to CFAC community



From Paintball (above), to whitewater rafting, CFAC MWR has something for you. Contact your command MWR representative for more information.



CFAC awards and recognition

May 2004

Photos by YN2 Amy Broadus



YN3 Amber Bixby, newly frocked to her present rate, after completing the PO3 Indoctrination course.



MAC Frank Lewandowski and RP1 Alvarez Hemhill spearheaded the 2004 Navy and Marine Corps Relief fund drive, raising more than \$5,400, surpassing the command goal by nearly \$1,000.



From left, BU3 Juan Garcia, UT1 John Kaffenberger, and SW2 Anthony Cardona. Each were awarded Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medals.